

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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Border Zastava

1. The headquarters of a Border Guard zastava (code name "Temenugh" or "Yagoda") is located on the northeast side of Shtit village (N 41-49, E 26-22), Svilengrad Okoliya. The headquarters building was built in the summer of 1953, has one story and about 20 rooms. [redacted] the zastava complement consists of 60 men, and [redacted] 40-50 men. There are two non-commissioned officers and two officers. The following are the officers in the zastava:

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- a. First Lieutenant Stoyanov (fnu), commanding officer of the zastava since 1952 [redacted]

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- b. Second Lieutenant Kiro Radulov [redacted]

2. Two-man patrols are dispatched from the zastava headquarters and are on duty for three to four hours when they are relieved by another patrol. One man of each patrol carries a submachine gun, the other carries a rifle, and each has one, handle-type grenade. Each patrol is equipped with signal flares. The patrols

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follow designated paths along the border. Upon encountering anything suspicious, the patrols fire either a colored flare or a designated number of shots.

3. There are six-seven dogs attached to the zastava center. Dogs accompany only night patrols. [redacted] At night, ambushes are formed in an area located due south of Shtit known as "Davutchka" and in a heath known as "Petmezto Prav" located southwest of Shtit.

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Border Conditions

4. The land in the vicinity of the border near Shtit village is flat and is not wooded. The border is delineated by a small stream. Border marker pyramids are located at 2000 meter intervals. There is a 2-3 meter wide strip of tilled land about 15 meters from and paralleling the border. During 1953, Border Guards erected a one kilometer long barbed wire fence. [redacted] this fence is located 10 meters inland from the plowed strip between Shtit and Pashovo (N 41-49, E 26-22), consists of 7-8 parallel strands stretched between stakes, and is about two meters high.

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5. There is a mine field, about 40 x 10 meters, located between a small stream and the border southeast of Shtit in a place called Kindrite. According to rumors in Shtit, there is a mine field located south of the village. [redacted]

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6. Along the border there are hidden flare traps. These traps are generally placed in areas suitable for border crossings. [redacted] one located due south of Shtit in the area known as "Davutchka" and in a heath known as "Ivan Tepe" located southwest of Shtit. Both flares were located "very near" the border. The trip cords are set about 80 centimeters above the ground. [redacted]

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[redacted] In 1953 Atanas Dimitrov, a native of Khaskovo, working as a shepherd in Shtit, was blinded in one eye when he picked up a flare to examine it, releasing the firing mechanism.

Fortifications Near Shtit

7. There is a fortification line built during the summer of 1953 by Trudovaks located in the "Karabash" area located 4000-5000 meters north of Shtit. The line is northwest of and parallels the eastern tributary of the "Kalamiza" stream. The terminal points of the fortification line are unknown. The fortification line consists of a zig-zag trench, underground shelters with wooden roofs and concrete bunkers having two embrasures towards the east.
8. There is a 200-meter long fortification line along the southern slopes of a small rise located 100-200 meters north of Shtit.

Travel Controls

9. Shtit is located in the first border zone. Sladun village (N 41-51, E 26-27) is also in the first border zone. The nearest villages located north of Shtit are in the second border zone. Residents of Shtit are allowed to till their fields near the border only on Wednesdays and Fridays when they are accompanied by Border Guard privates.
10. There are no members of the State Security or Militia located in Shtit. [redacted] there are no Soviet forces located in the vicinity of Shtit, and [redacted] aircraft do not fly near the border in the vicinity of Shtit.

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Personalities, Shtit Village

11. [redacted]
- a. Vasil Ivanov Lambantov, chief of the Shtit People's Council since 1952 and [redacted]

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b. Angel Stovanov (aka Morlyuvite or Morolyute), tax collector of Shtit [redacted] 25X1

c. Dimitur Ivanov (Dimitrov), clerk in the Shtit People's Council [redacted]

d. Yano Nikolov Yovchev, forester attached to the Shtit People's Council;

e. Milcho (Inu) aka Dobarite [redacted] secretary in the Shtit People's Council [redacted] 25X1

f. Ivan (Inu) [redacted] founder of the TKZS (Trudovo Kooperativno Zemedelski Stopanstvo; Labor Cooperative Agrarian Farm) consisting of 30 of the 300 families in Shtit [redacted] 25X1

Gypsy Residents and Banished Families

12. There are five gypsy families settled in Shtit. There are employed as shepherds and tinsmiths.

13. About 1950 Purlev (fnu), and his family were banished from Shtit for criticizing the Communist regime.

Road Construction Near Shtit

14. A new road is to be built from Shtit to Dervishka Mogila (N 41-55, E 26-21) via Mustrak (N 41-52, E 26-18). As of February 1954 only the ballast stones had been piled along the route.

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